

Washington City March 21st 1857.

My Dear Sir,

The marriage of my sister prevented my writing last week and giving you an answer in regard to the time of Mr. Fremont's return. I am half ashamed to say that the Fremonts reached here last summer - but if you can excuse my neglect for that once I will promise never to do so again. For once Mr. Cameron is not to blame, but in another case I think he is. Before Mr. Fremont left I sent to your daughter, who pressed some of his plants, a card case of Chinese manufacture brought to me from Canton, which is I expect in the dead letter office. The uncertainty of trusting to a third party in the prairies as well as here, will I think deter Mr. Fremont from sending in his plants in advance of his party; and for his own arrival we cannot reasonably look until May or June - if indeed then. This war has interfered sadly.

with his original intentions. Our own letters from
him date no later than the first of October.
Despatches from the Fleet & Com^d Stockton are here.
Dated the 25th of November, but as Mr. Kimball
was several hundred miles in the interior he
was not aware of the chance for writing Capt.
Stockton's letter, are vexations - because they
require more assistance from Mr. Kimball. I am
in hopes that the Dragon force under Genl. Kearny
& the New York regiment, will procure his release.
For as you may perceive I have no sympathies
for the war, nor ~~does~~ Mr. Kimball. Fighting
is not his aim & though he threw all his
energy into the affair last July & August
yet it was as if renewing a private insult
for he knew nothing of the war - & of course as
an officer, real insults to the country would be
felt, & met by him in the same manner,
but in my private opinion, there was
no necessity for blood to wipe out the insult.

offered by Mexico. I have let myself go from the
point, but you will see that it is uncertain
when Mr. Remont can leave California. Genl.
Kearney carries him his Lieut. Col's commission &
discretionary orders, to stay or return as he
thinks fit. I know what he would wish, but
one's feelings cannot always be allowed to
direct. So you see I can only say that
I know nothing. I hope that we shall soon
hear perhaps by May even. He may arrive
at St. Louis, but now it is impossible
to decide. Should I hear, I will lose no
time in giving you the news. At all events some
good will result from the year in California
for Mr. Remont has been able to collect throu-
gh all the seasons, & get plants in all stages.
Young Abbott's report accompanies this. Perhaps
it may be of some interest although he seems
unskilled in exploration.

I am sorry to say farewell to Mr. Rem-
ont for in way a sort of flower child from

its name but the other as you say is more
characteristic as it comes from California.

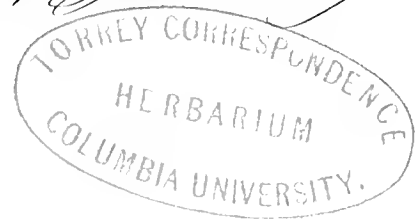
Mr. Fremont was forbidden to write on
account of pain in his chest, whilst at home
the last time, and as I was his amanuensis, it
seems that you are an old correspondent of
mine, which must be my apology for
giving you so long a letter but I knew
it was a subject in which you felt
really much interest.

With much respect I am

Very truly yours

Jesse Benton Fremont.

Washington City, February 21. 1849.



My dear Sir,

I have been so continuously out of health since the beginning of the year that your letter and the list have had to lie by until now. My eyes being somewhat affected by general weakness I would not use them. Long hopeful letters from Mr. Fremont and the knowledge of his being in safety up to the 1st of December have had their share in making me feel better, and although I am now in a fortnight I shall send you the finished list.

I think the drawing made on the last expedition must have been carried along, to be put with those now being made - I cannot find the one you speak of. Mr. Fremont showed it to me & I remember it well.

If you have a proof can you let me have one to take to Mr. Fremont? I shall be in New York

for two or three days before we sail - about the
5th or 7th of March. If you are in the city at
that time I shall hope to see you. At all
events I expect to carry Mr. Fremont a long
letter from you.

From this Congress Mr. Fremont will not
allow anything to be asked. They have but
a few days to live and we hope for a better Mt.
This expedition will do something for geology
but the snows are too deep for botanizing.

I send you the packet which contains a
much of his letters as answers to the first
enquiries of his friends.

Yours respectfully James

Jesse Benton Fremont.

Dr. John Torrey
New York.



[Prob. late For early Mr 1849 -] M.H. 13.6
1935



My dear Sir,

I find the list of the
plants can be made out by
me, with some guessing at Latin and
I hope the enclosed is readable.
They go as high as 511, and will
send on the remainders at once.

No apology is needed for not
answering my letter, I know so
well how incessant and fatiguing
your occupations are - I am much
gratified at being written to at all.
I am waiting for Fitzwilliam How

movements to receive some letters
from W^m Fremont. They are to
be middle of December I suppose.
having only accounts through a
third person. The great point
of his health, however, is most
satisfactory. He had entirely
recovered energy and sound health.

This will I know give you real
pleasure. With much respect
Very truly yours
W. B. Fremont
Friday m.